

## POSSIBILITY SEEN FOR GAS RATE CUT

City Attorney Thinks Decision of High Court Opens a Loophole

## VALUATION IS BASIS

Paragraph in Decision Cited as Affecting Increase in Other Public Service

If the supreme court's decision knocking out the order of the corporation commission which granted an increase of 10 cents a thousand cubic feet of gas delivered by the Oklahoma Natural Gas company is effective in one case it is equally effective in another and that is to annul the temporary order of the commission passed last April authorizing the gas company to increase its price from 25 cents to 45 cents a thousand cubic feet.

This opinion was expressed Tuesday by city officials and was concurred in by the city legal department.

That the city will take steps immediately to have the existing temporary rate reduced by the supreme court to the rate in force prior to April 15, 1920, was the assertion of City Attorney Frank E. Duncan after a conference with other officials.

These officials see a far-reaching effect from the supreme court's decision. They believe they can knock out an increase in rates should it be granted to the Southwestern Bell Telephone company in the same manner as the gas company's increase was prevented and under the same ruling, if that can be applied to the increase given the Tulsa Street Railway company recently, if desired.

The reason for the hopeful attitude of officials is contained in one paragraph of the supreme court's ruling in the gas case, which reads as follows:

"The first essential in fixing rates is to determine the value of the property, and then determine whether the rate is reasonable. The commissioners are permitted to take into consideration the depreciation, repairing and numerous other items in determining what is fair and reasonable in fixing a rate, but it is always essential that the value of the property be determined."

In granting the order for an increase to the Oklahoma Natural Gas company the corporation commission did not ascertain the value of its property as is evident from one section of its findings, which states that "the commission is not at this time prepared to express an opinion as to the fair, reasonable value of the property now used and useful in serving the patrons of the Oklahoma Natural Gas company."

The ruling of the supreme court states further: "A reading of the entire order (of the corporation commission) conveys the idea that it is not an order fixing a rate, but an order setting aside a certain fund to be collected from the consumers of gas which is to be reserved and set aside as a special fund, known as the 'patrons' fund,' provided by patrons and to be delivered to the Oklahoma Natural Gas company and held by it, and may be used in the future by the Oklahoma Natural Gas company in building new lines or compressor stations, by agreement with the corporation commission."

"Let us consider the order in view of the fact, first, that the commission did not determine the value of the property; second, it made no distinction between the consumers of gas who purchased gas from the Oklahoma Natural Gas company and those who purchased from local companies; third, from a reading of the order itself, it conveys the idea it is not an order fixing a rate. When construed in the light of these facts and circumstances, we are unable to construe the order as an order fixing a rate within the meaning of section 34, article 9 of the constitution."

According to Duncan the corporation commission did not ascertain the value of the Oklahoma Natural Gas company when the temporary increase was granted last April, to be in force until March, 1921, "for until further orders of the commission." Therefore, he holds that the commission had no more authority to order that increase than it had to order the one just knocked out by the supreme court, and upon this phase of the case will the court stand to its action which has been referred to the supreme court for a decision.

Duncan said Tuesday that the corporation commission did not learn the value of either the Tulsa Street Railway company or that of the Southwestern Bell Telephone company. He did not state whether an action would be brought against the street railway company, as he has intimated on several occasions that he did not object to the 7-cent fare if the company will give efficient service.

## SANITARY CASH GROCERY

112 North Main Street  
Phones Osage 613-9443

## GUARANTEED FRESH Country EGGS.. 48c doz

Potatoes, peck..... 28c  
Red Star Flour, 24 lbs. per sack..... \$1.50  
Prunes, 3 lbs..... 25c  
Coffee, lb..... 25c  
Rice, 3 lbs..... 25c  
  
Free Delivery on All Orders Over \$5.00  
Phones Osage 613-9443

## THE THEATERS

## CHAMBER EXPECTS BIG HOUSE MEET

Attempt to Realize Building Bargain Period to Be Made Today

Indications are that the meeting to be held in the municipal auditorium at 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon by material dealers, contractors, business men and bankers, will be much larger than various trade organizations will be well attended. The meeting was called by a committee appointed by Alva J. Niles, president of the chamber of commerce, and is composed of O. M. McBride, chairman, Cass Mayo, J. M. Gillette, John H. Hadley and A. W. Hurley.

Although every local contractor asked Tuesday afternoon said he would be present, similar assurances were given in response to inquiries of labor organization heads. O. S. Tishaw as business agent will represent the painters union, and Paul Featherby, business agent, is to represent the iron workers, carpenters and plumbers. Bricklayers will also be represented, it was said, at headquarters of the various unions Tuesday.

The purpose of this meeting, as outlined by the chamber of commerce committee, is to bring together contractors, builders and union heads together to determine upon a "bargain" period during which prices of

## Osage Grocery & Market

107 East First  
Phone O. 2080

Swift's Premium Bacon, half or whole piece..... 45c  
Star Skinned Hams, half or whole..... 32c

Meadow Gold butter	48c
Crisco, 9-lb. can	\$1.85
Veal steak	20c
Veal stew	5c
Pork chops	20c
Shoulder of lamb	15c
Our own cured corn beef	20c
Best cream cheese	35c
Blue Ribbon margarine colored	38c
Best breakfast bacon, sliced, one lb. pkg.	45c
Food plate rib boiling beef	10c

VEGETABLE DEPARTMENT  
Fancy Winesap Apples, box..... \$2.50  
Fancy Sunkist Oranges, dozen..... 35c  
Fancy large Bananas, dozen..... 45c

GROCERY BARGAINS  
24 lb. sack Yukon's Best Flour..... \$1.43  
100 lb. best potatoes..... \$1.95  
25c quality fancy cut string beans, 2 cans..... 35c  
Quart jars Goodwin's pure fruit jelly..... 59c  
Large can Bonita apricot jam, in heavy syrup..... 39c

## The Peoples X Or X Exchange

These are two abbreviations frequently used in referring to the Peoples Exchange, which is the largest retail Food Distributor in the Southwest.

We wish to announce that beginning Monday, February 21, 1921, we are going to have a Pure Food Show and Quality Sale lasting one week. Below we quote you some extremely low, money-saving prices on good Groceries and Meats. We will also make for your information comparisons of prices that existed a few weeks ago:

Swift's Premium Lard, 10-lb. pails	TODAY \$2.20	WAS \$3.50
Good Creamery Butter, 16 ounces	44	28
Nut Oleo, various brands	27	37
Pork Chops, from heavy loins	25	35
Small Pork Chops	25	40
Morel's Box Bacon, pound	47	65
Bulk Compound, pound	15	30
First Grade Hams, pound	33	43
Beef Cuts, 5 to 15 cents pound cheaper than they were, which is a decrease of from 20 to 50 per cent.		

Dry Salt Belles	TODAY \$1.18	WAS \$1.35
Dry Salt Butts	44	28
Whole Pork Shoulders, trimmed	18	25
Iowa Sweet Corn, per can	10	15
No. 2 Cans Tomatoes, can	.08	.14
10 lbs. Hand-picked Navy Beans	.05	1.25
10 lbs. Fancy Head Rice	.70	1.40
Pea Berry Coffee, per pound	.24	.35
Red Star Flour, 24-lb. sack	1.49	2.00
Gallon Peaches	.59	.85
2½-lb. Can California Peaches, water pack	.18	.30
Folger's Golden Gate Coffee, pound	.49	.65
100 lbs. Best White Sugar	7.75	28.00
10 lbs. Pure White Sugar	.79	2.00
1-Pck Best Potatoes	.32	.80
5-lb. Pail Home-Rendered Lard	.45	1.50
10-lb. Pail Home-Rendered Lard	1.70	3.40

The price of bread has not declined in price, but the size of the loaf has been increased in weight to approximately 15 per cent.

All out-of-town orders given prompt attention. Shipped same day order is received.

We are often asked why we can sell Food Products so much cheaper than others and make money. Of course, if we wished to make as much money, that is to say, as large per cent, as the average merchant, we could not sell the food products at the prices we do and make the above accomplishment, but the trick of our business is this: We sell the Best Groceries and Meats at extremely low prices, and by so doing it enables us to have such a large volume and quick turnover that it enables us to take an extremely small fraction of profit. This extremely large volume and quick turnover cost less to buy these Food Products at considerably smaller cost than the merchant who desires to make such a large profit.

How is business? This is a question asked us every day by the consuming public. Here is just exactly how it is: Our sales records show an increase for the first five weeks of this year in number of sales or counter customers; but, on the other hand, our tonnage is considerably lighter, which shows that the people are buying very conservatively.

Peoples Exchange

LITTLE "Son of Tarzan" serial of the African jungle, eighth episode; a western feature picture, "Patty and Master," comes out with RKO next Friday.

WONDERLAND: "Beautyful Town" with Carmel Myers, "Hill Wife" comedy; "The Amazing Link" serial, with the crooked link, "The Mystery of the Vanishing Girl," Max Gordon musical comedy.

OPHEUM: "Orpheus News and Topics of the Day," Big Time Vaudeville, with George Davis, "Theatrical Topics," with songs of the old south; St. Marys and Tyson, in "Kings of Vaudeville," comedy; "The Essential," comedy; "The Boot Shop," singing and dancing; "Clown and Koko," in a special "W. W. W. W. W." sketch; "Music of Orpheus" orchestra.

MAJESTIC: "Hollidays, Days of the Week," with Richard C. Coe, "Days of the Week and Topics of the Day," Music Majestic orchestra and organ.

PALACE: "The Book of Virtues" with Douglas MacLean and Denis Moynihan, Music Majestic orchestra.

RIAD: "The Broken Gates," from the story of King Solomon, with the "Promised Monkeys," comedy.

ROYAL: "High," a First National picture, with all-star cast, Joe Martin, the champion comedian, in "The Promised Monkey," comedy.

BROADWAY: "An Adventure" with Julian Eltinge, Pathé News, comedy.

W. W. W. W. W.: "The King of Comedy," with Bert Lahr, "The King of Comedy," with Bert Lahr.

## Sherky Waives Trial On Charge of Liquor Possession in Tulsa

D. M. Sherky, arrested by federal officers in a rooming house at 235 South Main street, the night of February 5 in the act of pouring liquor from bottles to the ground, entered a plea of not guilty at his arraignment Tuesday before C. L. Vanney United States commissioner, and was released under bond of \$1,000 for action by the federal grand jury. The defendant waived preliminary hearing.

The officers entered the rooming house and after arresting Harry Sherky as the proprietor, say they found Sherky in a rear room on the second floor flooding the ground below with liquor. Sherky had emptied all of the bottles except the one he held in his hand.

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Both materials and labor are to be reduced by those invested with authority to make such reductions. The plan is similar to that utilized by merchants in conducting a bargain day, except which act as a healthy stimulant to business and cause a rapid turn-over of goods.

As chairman of the chamber of commerce committee, McClure will probably take charge of the meeting. Arrangements have been made to increase the seating capacity of the auditorium to accommodate the large crowd that is expected.

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## BRINGS SLANDER SUIT

Lumber Company Agent Asks \$25,000 Damages for Alleged Accusation of Embezzling Money.

Damages of \$25,000 for alleged slander were asked by E. B. Mosley in district court yesterday against the Rockwood Lumber and Porter Lumber companies, for which Mosley was agent at Highview prior to July 8, 1920.

Mosley claims auditors of the company, after investigating and auditing his accounts at Pawhuska on that day, accused him of a shortage in his accounts, whereas the petition denies any shortage and says that further investigation of the books proved the accusation untrue.

Sue to Clear Title to West Tulsa Lot

Rodolf Is Temporary County Court Judge

Attorney C. M. Rodolf was elected Tuesday at the meeting of the Tulsa County Bar association to temporarily succeed Judge W. H. Williams of county court. Judge Williams left for California Tuesday to visit his wife, who is in that state because of her health.

Finding G. E. Bates not guilty

of burglary when he broke a lock

on the door of his room in the Cook rooming house at Sperry

February 3, the defendant was discharged at the conclusion of his preliminary hearing Tuesday before Justice H. J. Gray.

Proof in the case showed that

Bates paid an agent of the owner

of the house, L. F. Cook, rent

in advance for one week and

Cook later placed a padlock

on the door. Bates admitted

he had no intention of committing

grand larceny when he broke into

his own room.

Low-Priced Undergarments

Women's E. M. C. Athletic Unions

Two special lots of women's

E. M. C.—ideal athletic

underwear—made of pink

crepe de chine and pink

wash satin; shown in plain

and lace trimmer styles

with camisole tops. Choice,

Special ..... 3.95

1 Lot Silk Camisoles—Special, 1.69

Nearly finished and neatly made camisoles of pink crepe

de chine and pink wash satin, in tailored and lace

trimmer style; splendid values.

Low-Priced Undergarments

Children's Undergarments

A new showing of misses' and children's princess slips,

drawers and dresses of fine batiste attractively trimmed

with pretty lace; the drawers in knickerbocker style

finished with lace and embroidered edges.

Priced 1.75 to as low as .

Fourth Floor

Children's Drawer Waists

Little drawer waists made of fine muslin, either plain

or lace trimmed; neatly finished and

moderately priced, 75¢ and .

50¢

Jersey and Italian Silk U'wear

Women's Kayser Silk Jersey Vests, bodice and tailored top styles shown

strictly tailored or embroi-</